

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:728
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2006
MISUSE OF PAN CARD
Singh Shri Kirti Vardhan

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has plans to curb misuse of PAN Cards as reported in the `Times of India` dated July 5, 2006;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any survey about the growing number of PAN Card holders;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefore?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S PALANIMANICKAM)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Income Tax Department is examining the possibility of using biometric features in the PAN system to ensure security of PAN and its uniqueness in relation to a person.

(c) to (e): The Government has not carried out any survey into the growing number of PAN Card holders. The growth in the number of PAN card holders is due to various factors, including compulsory quoting of PAN in all statements and returns filed by all income tax return filers, in all challans for payment of direct taxes, in specified high value transactions and its use as a Common Business Number (CBN) by other government departments such as Customs and Central Excise Service Tax, Directorate General of Foreign Trade. Recently, SEBI has also mandated use of a PAN for demat accounts.